

**To:** Distefano, Nichole[DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov]; Russo, Rebecca[Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov]; Card, Joan[Card.Joan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Fri 8/7/2015 7:48:00 PM  
**Subject:** Re: R6 input

+Joan

We can also add this info from R9 - someone need to change italics - can't on my iPhone

*EPA contacted NTUA regarding the Mexican Hat Water Treatment Plant and NTUA stated that the intake at the river has been shut down for a few days due to high turbidity levels in the San Juan River. Water was being hauled from an adjacent water system to provide water to residents of the Mexican Hat water system. Also, the NTUA-Farmington Rural Regional Water System which includes the communities of Nenahnezad, San Juan, Upper Fruitland, Hogback, Shiprock, Cudeii, and Beclabito receives its drinking water from the City of Farmington, NM. The City of Farmington released this statement, Farmington's drinking water remains unaffected, and the water supply intake pumps for City of Farmington water supply remain shut down." Therefore, there is no immediate threat to the drinking water systems for all Navajo Nation communities along the San Juan River.*

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 7, 2015, at 2:41 PM, Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)> wrote:

DRAFT - Region 6 input

Gold King Mine Spill

Region 6 Response

To ensure pre-impact samples were collected, EPA collected samples in New Mexico on August 6, 2015 (pm). The samples were taken on the Animas River, at the first accessible location south of the Colorado/New Mexico border and at the northern most drinking water intake for the city of Aztec. These samples have a 24 hr turn-around time and results will be available soon. Note: these are background samples.

NMED worked with drinking water system operators in the towns of Aztec and Farmington, NM to collect water samples at their intakes. EPA will also take custody of the samples for laboratory analysis.

The evening of August 6, 2015, Region 6 mobilized 2 START contractors from removal site in Grants, New Mexico, to Farmington, NM to have them on the ground to initiate sampling early morning August 7.

The morning of August 7, 2015, Region 6 deployed a federal On Scene Coordinator from our emergency response team and 4 additional START resources from Dallas to New Mexico. They are expected to arrive in Farmington the afternoon of August 7.

There are a total of 9 drinking water intakes for 5 drinking water systems. We will collect samples at each location. EPA plans to collect water samples from the southernmost intake in Farmington to the northernmost intake in Aztec. We are analyzing for metals, mercury and taking field pH readings.

EPA is coordinating water sample locations with NMED. Water Quality Division is gathering baseline and historical water quality data to aid decision making.

The drinking water treatment systems are able to store large quantities of water in advance of shutting down and are currently doing so. I have asked for estimates on how long of an outage this would cover at each of the 5 systems.

The State of New Mexico has issued a general advisory to all water users for the Animas River.

As of 10am this morning, the leading edge of the plume was still not in New Mexico. It was 8 linear (not river) miles north.

Sent from my iPhone